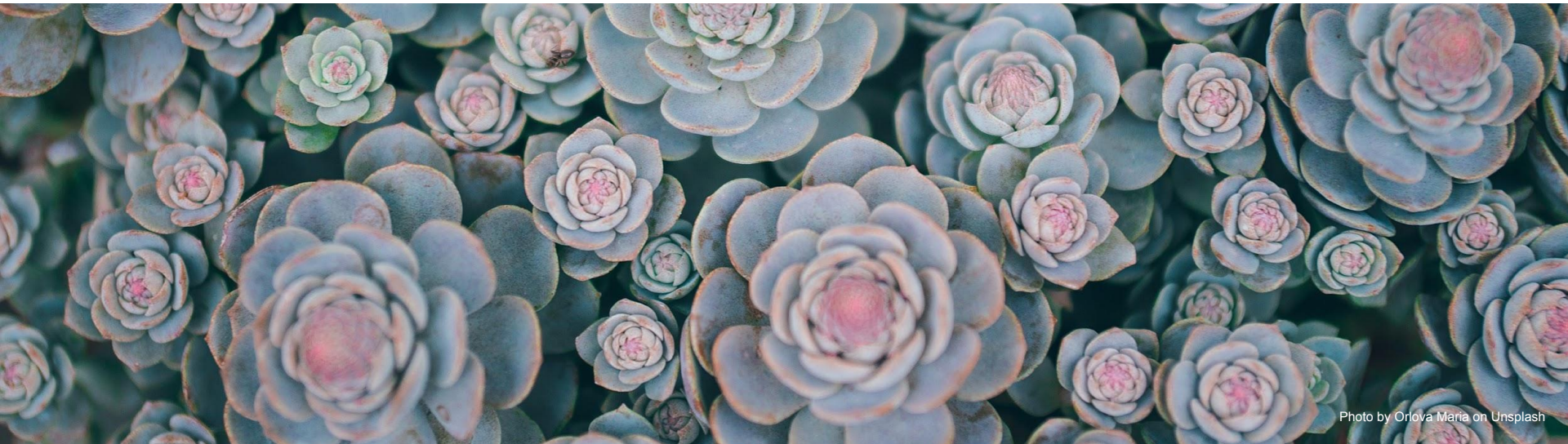


# **Empowering & Rewarding Achievement in Undergraduate Research at Penn State: A Strategic and Flexible Approach**

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Hailley Fargo, Jennifer Jarson, Christina Riehman-Murphy, & Rebecca Miller Waltz

*Penn State University*



# Penn State & UGR

- 75,000+ undergraduate students across the Commonwealth
- Decentralized University support for undergraduate research
- Uneven and reactive Libraries involvement until 2017





# Landscape

- 19 campuses gave award
- Planning and implementation
- Library involvement
- Opportunities/challenges
- Surveyed campuses



# University Park //

Hailley Fargo  
Rebecca Miller Waltz

- Exhibition is hosted by Undergraduate Education
  - Libraries is key partner
- 300+ posters, one evening
- Recruit library staff to help judge
- Formal recognition ceremony following Exhibition

*More info:*

<https://undergradresearch.psu.edu/resources/opportunities/undergraduate-exhibition>







# Lehigh Valley // Jennifer Jarson

- *Undergraduate Research Symposium*
- Planned by Faculty Senate committee
  - Librarian is a member
- IL award introduced in 2018
- Campus faculty serve as judges

More info:

<https://lehighvalley.psu.edu/undergraduate-research-symposium>

# Berks // Alexandria Chisholm Sarah Hartman-Caverly Brett Spencer

- *Conference for Undergraduate Research and Creative Expression*
- Planned by Higher Education Council of Berks County
- IL award introduced in 2019
- 2 librarians serve as judges

More info:

<https://guides.libraries.psu.edu/Berks/UndergradResearch>





# Abington // Christina Riehman-Murphy

- *ACURA Exhibition* is planned by faculty UR council
  - Librarian is a member
- Librarian is embedded in recipe transcription project
- IL award is separate from exhibition winners. Students must apply.

*More info:*

<https://abington.psu.edu/academics/undergraduate-research>



# Wilkes-Barre // Megan Mac Gregor

- *Celebration of Scholarship*
- Library plans, hosts, judges
- UR Posters have become a part of campus culture - all come from regular coursework ~150 posters from > 450 students (30% student participation!)

*More info:*

- <http://palrap.org/ojs/index.php/palrap/article/view/109>
- <https://sites.psu.edu/wbscholarship/2019-celebration-of-scholarship/>





# Harrisburg // Emily Mross

- *Research Week*
- Only campus to include graduate students & undergraduates
- Sponsored by various offices including library. Library provides the only awards

*More info:*

[https://www.instagram.com/p/BiPKR3ggC\\_K/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/p/BiPKR3ggC_K/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link)





# Working Groups, 2017-2019

1. Rubric revisions
  - a. Includes long & short form & questions
2. Workshops in a Box
  - a. Getting started with research
  - b. Poster design & creation
  - c. Poster presentation
3. Best Practices
  - a. Name change
  - b. Landscape survey

More info:

<https://libraries.psu.edu/about/awards-scholarships-internships-and-graduate-assistantships/university-libraries-undergraduate>



# Work Collectively, Deploy Individually

- Working groups develop & iterate rubric, workshops, promotion
- Solicit input & feedback throughout process
- Share content across all campus libraries, customizable to fit campus-specific needs





## Next steps

- Consider how to use award as catalyst for other undergraduate research initiatives
- Scaffold support for undergraduate research
- Continue to iterate
- Define research agenda for undergraduate research support



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